Rep. John Hall, Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, issued the following statement today in response to the news that private insurers are unscrupulously holding on to veterans' life insurance payments.

"This type of dishonest business practice at the expense of the surviving families of veterans is simply unacceptable. For life insurance companies to take advantage of veterans' grieving families at their time of loss is despicable. I am glad to hear that both the VA and the New York State Insurance Department are investigating this practice."

"As Chairman of the House VA Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs with jurisdiction over Veterans Group Life Insurance programs, I will make sure that any legislative actions needed to correct this situation are taken as quickly as possible. It dishonors the memory of our brave soldiers that their families are being cheated in the name of corporate profits."